

# 1098<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society 7:30PM Wednesday October 24, 2007 Building C, Fort Mason San Francisco, California

## Numismatic Sizzle! Steve Huston

Please join us Wednesday October 24, 2007 to hear *Steve Huston* put the sizzle in numismatics. He requests that members bring exhibits that tell a favorite story.

### 1097<sup>th</sup> meeting. September 26, 2007 Golden Gate Bridge Medals Michael Wehner (reviewed by Herb Miles)

Michael Wehner gave us a taste of the unfinished presentation he will deliver during the Northern California version of California State Numismatic Association's Educational Symposium. His talk will center on the Golden Gate Bridge and the many medals, tokens, and other exonumia that pictures this icon of the Bay Area.

Michael noted wryly that he did not realize just how many pieces he had accumulated over the years! He showed photos of commemorative issues from around the time of the bridge opening in 1936 to more modern issues honoring its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and all manner of depictions in between. Some were quite charming and pictured the bridge nicely whereas others were barely identifiable as the GGB. As a work in progress, photos of his elongates had not been added to the presentation.

To hear and see the complete presentation, Michael invites all of us to the Symposium to be held in Vallejo, California at the Naval and Historical Museum on October 27, 2007.

#### September 2007 SHOW & TELL

Ken brought his recently acquired 2007 regular Proof set, which includes the 4 new quarters, the 4 Presidential Dollars and the regular circulating dollar, half dollar, quarter, dime, nickel and cent.

Federico exhibited his newly acquired book, Central American Provisional Minters & Provincial Mints, by Carlos Jara, a book written in English instead of Spanish, thus suffering from misguided translations in many instances. Federico also exhibited his Costa Rican pattern 5 cent piece in nickel, with the date incomplete, slabbed by PCGS.

Whalen showed off his London Tower Mint New Pence, and a silver commemorative from Santa Clara University, his alma mater!

Scott brought a PCGS slabbed 1633 Polish Taler from the city of Thorn and its counterfeit counterpart, and a pair of the finest known PCGS slabbed Peruvian quarter pesos, one of 1823 and the other of 1823-V.

Herb brought in honor of the Speaker, 4 San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge tokens or medals.

Michael exhibited (from an estate he is dispersing) a high relief MCMVII St. Gaudens' 20 dollar gold piece, to be sold for the benefit of the owner. Later, the coin proved to be genuine and is in an NCS slab (Unc details, rim damage)

#### September 2007 Raffle

Our Raffle raised \$25 and featured the following items and winners. A book, William T. Sherman, Gold Rush Banker, by Dwight L. Clarke and published by the California Historical Society went to Federico

A George Washington Half Dollar Proof of 1982 was won by Ed A Group of World War II paper money went home with Federico for the kids!

And, lastly, a Canadian Dollar with pictorial of a Bear went to lucky winner Ed again!

Update on the ANA project at the Granite Lady

To put it mildly, the ANA is currently in turmoil. This adversely affects the ANA involvement in the museum project at the Old Mint. As of October 17, the ANA Board has fired the Executive Director, delayed their museum projects and agreed to terminate a \$1 million donation by Steve Contursi. I do not know what the ramifications of all this are. However, I do feel that we, as interested California numismatists, should let the ANA Board of Governors know how we feel. I suggest that members write to the Board expressing their opinions and encourage other interested parties to also write. The email addresses of the Board are: stuppler@money.org, finner@money.org, boling@money.org, krause@money.org, mishler@money.org, ostromecki@money.org, rochette@money.org, stearns@money.org, wolka@money.org. For those without email, the board member addresses are published in The Numismatist, or comments could be sent directly to Ken Hallenbeck, Acting Executive Director, 818 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

My letter to the Board and to the editor of Numismatic News, follows on the back page.

Sir,

I learned with dismay that the ANA has decided to not to pursue a museum in Washington, D.C. I hope that the same fate will not happen to the project to bring ANA numismatic exhibits to the Granite Lady. The Old Mint in Sa Francisco represents an opportunity to present our hobby to significantly more people than any other venue the ANA has. More than the magazines, more than Summer Seminar, even more than the two national coin shows. Hundreds of thousands of tourists visit San Francisco every year. The San Francisco Museum and Historical Society plans a first class City history museum. This museum will be a natural starting point for many of these tourists. Perhaps as important, local history is part of the California elementary school curricula and there are sure to be field trips to the museur every week. However, the Museum and Historical Society will tell a story about San Francisco of which numismatics is only a small part. The offer to the ANA to have separate space and exhibits is a unique opportunity to promote our hobby to the general public that will not happen again. Once th building is built out, it would be difficult to change. We cannot allow ourselves to miss this chance.

I strongly urge the ANA Board of Governors to reaffirm their committment to the Granite Lady project. I also ask that the Board engage the greater San Francisco Bay Area numismatic community in implementing the project. They will find a vibrant community that is extremely motivated to ensure that Numismatics continues to remain a part of this important building.

Sincerely
Michael Wehner
San Francisco, California
President, Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
President, San Francisco Coin Club

#### Important announcement!

Be sure to check the board on the ground floor near the elevator in Building C. The announced room is subject to change by Fort Mason management.